

**Garfield Township  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Board members present were Byl, Roland, Yarhouse, Farwell and Irwin. Also in attendance was Fire Chief Tubbs.

1. **Agenda:** The meeting agenda for December 17, 2018 was approved by a motion from Irwin, and supported by Yarhouse. All Ayes. Motion carried.
2. **Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2018. A additional wording in the second paragraph of #12 was suggested for clarification. A motion to approve the minutes from Roland, supported by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. **Clerks report.** An FYI was distributed to the board regarding 4 cemetery lots returned to the township. A financial report with fund balances for township accounts will be provided by the Clerk to be included in the Treasurer's Report monthly.
4. **Treasurers Report:** Motion to approve the report was made by Farwell, supported by Irwin. All Ayes. Motion carried.
5. **Fire Report:** Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported 293 runs YTD, with 17 Runs for the month; 14 Medical; 2 PI; 1 Mutual Aid.  
New SCBA Air Packs were thoroughly discussed as to the expense and financial options. Fire Dept. reserve monies could be in jeopardy, because of the cost. Perhaps a USDA grant could be obtained to help with purchase. The old fill station might be able to have some parts retrofitted to accommodate the newer equipment. A Special Board Meeting is planned for December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018. New Officers and restructuring for the Fire Dept is as follows: Elimination of the medical officer position; an addition of a second Assistant Fire Chief, those serving are Shane Henry & Rick Gott; Captain is S J Conroy; Lieutenant is Anthony Chedester; Safety officers are Sarah Williams and Adam Gott.
6. **Tom Pirnstill-Clare County Transit:** presented a power point about the transit. It's history-a non-profit (501c3) corporation, how it serves the county residents, miles driven /year, useful life of the bus fleet and replacement options, driving 595,000 approx. miles annually. Operational costs and funding from 0.3 millage rate not increased since 1990. Contract partnership fares and passenger fares, state and federal operating assistance. The Transit is also on a task force with Homeland Security. He also explained how the transit and its passengers directly support local businesses. He gave a few rider profiles in his presentation, students, the workforce, veterans, disabled persons and elderly persons.
7. **Brad Beach-Assessor:** The Board of Review handles 9 petitions and 4 Homestead exceptions were uncapped. The State is looking into making some assessing changes. Have to see what happens next.
8. **Blight Control Officer report:**  
He asked permission to request a formal hearing on a residence, and explained what was happening with several other properties. The board approved the formal hearing request.

## 9. Supervisors Notes:

- Medical (Recreational) Marijuana Bill 396. MTA is working on a plan for townships to follow.
- DNR Letter. Our township not involved.
- Positive Pay- a bank protection fee of .05 a check in case problems arise in processing a check.
- Supervisors meeting. Organized by Grant Twp to create a united front dealing with Road Commission problems.
- Financial statement review-
- Attended the MTA seminar and came back with lots of ideas.
- Free Food Distribution CNN December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center in Farwell.

## 10. Public Comments:

Joe Stragea made positive comments about the passing of two national public Servants.

## 11. New Business:

- Hall rental changes tabled until January
- Credit card policy need to be written regarding our Sunoco account per audit.
- Public Meeting plan. A preliminary letter was distributed to the board inviting residents to a July meeting to discuss township needs and payment options. Board is requested to make changes known for the next meeting.
- Power Wash for the Township and Fire buildings. Received a bid of \$1,150 reduced to \$1,000. Farwell made a motion to accept the bid, seconded by Irwin. Roll Call Vote: Farwell-yes, Irwin-yes, Yarhouse-yes, Roland-yes, Byl-yes
- A new Hall refrigerator is needed. Yarhouse will check one out in Woods Appliance. Irwin made a motion for not more than \$800.00. Supported by Roland. All aye Motion carried.

**12. Approval of Bills:** A motion to approve all bills, including the Power Washing was made by Irwin, seconded by Roland. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**13. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Irwin, Supported by Roland. Motion carried.

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*David Byl, Supervisor*

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*Joan E. Farwell, Clerk  
Transcribed by Janet Clayton*